

EU BUDGET FOR THE FUTURE

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DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME: A PROPOSED €9.2 BILLION OF FUNDING FOR 2021-2027

As part of the next long-term EU budget - the Multiannual Financial Framework - the Commission has proposed the Digital Europe programme, **the EU's programme focused on building the strategic digital capacities of the EU and on facilitating the wide deployment of digital technologies, to be used by Europe's citizens and businesses.** With a planned overall budget of €9.2 billion, it will shape and support the digital transformation of Europe's society and economy. The programme will boost investments in **supercomputing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced digital skills, and ensuring a wide use of digital technologies across the economy and society.** Its goal is to improve Europe's competitiveness in the global digital economy and increase its technological autonomy.

WHAT WILL THE DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME FUND?



€2.7 billion for supercomputing to:



Build up and strengthen the EU's supercomputing and data processing capacities by buying world-class exascale supercomputers by 2022/2023 (capable of at least a billion billion or 10^{18} calculations per second) and post exascale facilities by 2026/2027



Increase accessibility and broaden the use of supercomputing in areas of public interest such as health, environment and security, and in industry, including small and medium-sized enterprises



€2.5 billion for artificial intelligence to:



Invest in and open up the use of artificial intelligence by businesses and public administrations



Facilitate safe access to and storage of large sets of data and algorithms



Strengthen and support existing artificial intelligence testing and experimentation facilities in areas such as health and mobility in Member States and encourage their cooperation



€2 billion for cybersecurity to:



Support, together with Member States, the procurement of advanced cybersecurity equipment, tools and data infrastructures



Support the best use of European knowledge, capacity and advanced skills related to cybersecurity



Ensure the wide deployment of the latest cybersecurity solutions across the economy



Reinforce capabilities within Member States and the private sector for a uniformly high level of security of network and information systems across the EU



€700 million for advanced digital skills to:



Support the design and delivery of short-term trainings and courses for entrepreneurs, small business leaders and the workforce



Support the design and delivery of long-term trainings and Master's courses for students, IT professionals and the workforce



Support on-the-job trainings and traineeships for students, young entrepreneurs and graduates



€1.3 billion for ensuring the wide use of digital technologies across the economy and society to:



Ensure that the public sector and areas of public interests, such as health and care, education, transport, and the cultural and creative sectors, can deploy and access state-of-the-art digital technologies



Provide more interoperable public services across the EU and at EU level



Offer public administrations access to testing and piloting of digital technologies, including their cross-border use



Support the uptake of advanced digital and related technologies by the industry, notably small and medium-sized enterprises



Build up and strengthen the network of European Digital Innovation Hubs, aiming to have a Hub in every region, to help companies benefit from digital opportunities



Support and follow closely latest technical developments with the potential to benefit European economy and society

TIMELINE

6 June 2018

Commission presents the proposal for the Digital Europe programme

Spring 2019

Agreement on the proposal confirmed by the European Parliament and the Council, excluding budget-related issues

Summer 2019

Targeted stakeholder consultation on Digital Europe orientations begin

Autumn 2019

Full inter-institutional agreement expected on the Digital Europe programme

1 January 2021

Beginning of the Digital Europe programme

Digital Europe will complement other EU programmes, such as the proposed Horizon Europe programme for research and innovation, as well as the Connecting Europe Facility for digital infrastructure.